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DEPARTMENT OF STATE A/CDC/MR

F510-001-0667

RD: 100-100-100-100
TO: AM, 100-100-100-100ENCLOSURE EXISTING
January 11, 1957

RELEASE DENIED

PA/100-100-100-100

Dear Dr. Conant:

You wrote to the Secretary on July 13, 1956 recommending that the United States programs for recruiting scientists in Germany for defense purposes be discontinued. Your letter was sent to the Secretary of Defense formally on October 1 under cover of a letter from Secretary Dulles supporting your recommendation. The matter had previously been discussed at staff level, and you will recall you discussed it with Mr. Furnas in September.

We discussed the matter again with Defense recently, at staff level, and learned that they are preparing a reply which will certainly reflect at least a substantial degree of acceptance of your recommendation. In brief, Defense is prepared to discontinue all programs and all active recruiting and has in fact already done so. This does not, of course, imply that the military services will not assist in expediting the immigration of scientists who have applied for entry into the United States on their own initiative. (This is done largely through expediting background investigation.) However, they will not "recruit".

The officers with whom we talked stated that they had briefed appropriate USAEUR representatives to this effect both in Washington last summer after your letter was received, and in Europe in November.

A copy of a JIOA memorandum to the Army, dated December 18, 1956, reflecting these briefings is enclosed. We understand it has been sent to USAEUR. Also enclosed is a copy of the letter from Secretary Dulles to Secretary Wilson. I am not sure whether it was sent to you at the time.

Sincerely yours,

Jacques J. Reinstein
Director
Office of German Affairs
Bureau of European Affairs

Enclosures:

1. Memorandum.
2. Letter, October 1, 1956.

DC/R

The Honorable

James E. Conant,
American Ambassador,
Bonn.

Rev.

KUNTER, GEA; WKM; lorigw.

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